## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **Canceled.**

2. **Canceled.**

3. **(Currently Amended)** A method for treatment to reduce the extent of normotrophic scarring on the skin which comprises applying across a wound on the surface of the skin during wound repair a single application of a pharmaceutical composition or biomaterial comprised of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of an ester with an alcohol, an auto-crosslinked ester, a crosslinked derivative, a hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid, an O-sulphated derivative and an O/N sulphated derivative, optionally in association with at least one additional pharmacologically or biologically active compound.

4. **(Currently Amended)** An efficacious method for reducing the extent of wounds to the skin comprising applying to the wound an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition or biomaterial comprised of at least one hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of an ester with an alcohol, an autocrosslinked ester and an O-sulphated derivative ~~to~~, optionally in combination with at least one additional pharmacological or biologically active compound.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 4, wherein said wound reduction results in reduced ~~scarring is~~ normotrophic scarring.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with an alcohol of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic, and heterocyclic series.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the derivative of hyaluronic acid is an autocross-linked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with the alcoholic function of the same hyaluronic acid chain or other chains.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is a cross-linked compound of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxy groups are esterified with a polyalcohol of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic heterocyclic series, generating cross-linking by means of spacer chains.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an hemiester of succinic acid or a heavy metal salt of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or with a partial or total ester of hyaluronic acid.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an O-sulphated or O/N-sulphated derivative.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an amide derivative of hyaluronic acid.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to any one of claims 3 and 5-11, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is in the form of a gel, sponge, non-woven fabric, thread, perforated or non-perforated membrane, microsphere, nanosphere, gauze pad or a combination thereof.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to any one of claims 3 and 5-11, wherein the pharmacologically or biologically active substance is an antibiotic, growth factor, antimicotic, antimicrobial, antiviral agent, disinfectant, phospholipid or anaesthetic.

14. **(Original)** A method for treating scarring of the skin which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective scar treatment amount of a hyaluronic acid derivative.

15. (**Previously Presented**) The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with an alcohol of the aliphatic or aromatic series.

16. (**Previously Presented**) The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein a part or all of the carboxy functions are esterified with benzyl alcohol.

17. (**Previously Presented**) The method according to claim 3, wherein the hyaluronic acid derivative is an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein 75% of the carboxy functions are esterified with benzyl alcohol.

18. (**Currently Amended**) A method for the treatment of normotrophic scarring on the skin which comprises applying to the treatment area an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one hyaluronic acid derivative, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is in the form of a gel, a guide channel, a sponge, a thread, a perforated or non-perforated membrane, a microsphere, a nanosphere and a gauze.

19. (**NEW**) The method according to claim 17, wherein said extent of normotrophic scarring is reduced by 40% compared to areas treated with hyaluronic acid.